1 1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 2 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS 3 EASTERN DIVISION 4 5 MIYANO MACHINERY USA INC., Case No. 1:08-cv-00526 Chicago, Illinois February 7, 2008 Motion Hearing Pl ai nti ff, 6 7 V. MI YANOHI TEC MACHI NERY, INC., et al., 9 Defendants. 10 11 TRANSCRIPT OF MOTION HEARING BEFORE THE HONORABLE VIRGINIA M. KENDALL 12 UNI TED STATES DI STRI CT JUDGE 13 **APPEARANCES:** 14 15 For the Plaintiff: Cook Alex McFarron Manzo Cummings Mehler, Ltd. By: Edward D. Manzo,
Jason R. Smalley,
Joel H. Bock, and
Louis J. Alex
200 W. Adams St., Ste. 2850 16 17 18 Chi cago, IL 60606 (312) 236-8500 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

09: 37: 07	1	(Commenced at 9:37 a.m.)
09: 37: 07	2	THE CLERK: 08-526, Mi yano versus Mi yanoHi tec.
09: 37: 23	3	MR. MANZO: Good morning, Judge Kendall. My name is
09: 37: 25	4	Edward Manzo, M-a-n-z-o, for the plaintiff.
09: 37: 28	5	THE COURT: Good morning.
09: 37: 29	6	MR. MANZO: I believe this is my first appearance
09: 37: 30	7	before your Honor.
09: 37: 31	8	THE COURT: Well, good morning, Mr. Manzo. Nice to
09: 37: 32	9	meet you.
09: 37: 33	10	MR. MANZO: The pleasure is mine, your Honor.
09: 37: 34	11	I have my colleagues with me who have appeared in
09: 37: 39	12	this case.
09: 37: 39	13	MR. BOCK: Joel Bock.
09: 37: 40	14	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Bock.
09: 37: 41	15	MR. BOCK: Good morning.
09: 37: 42	16	MR. ALEX: Louis Alex.
09: 37: 43	17	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Alex.
09: 37: 45	18	MR. SMALLEY: Jason Smalley.
09: 37: 46	19	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Smalley.
09: 37: 48	20	MR. KARTON: Good morning, your Honor. My name is
09: 37: 50	21	Robert M. Karton, K-a-r-t-o-n. I filed my appearance for all
09: 37: 54	22	the defendants.
09: 37: 55	23	THE COURT: For all three?
09: 37: 56	24	MR. KARTON: For all three defendants.
09: 37: 57	25	THE COURT: What was your first name?

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MR. KARTON: Robert.

THE COURT: Robert. Good morning.

MR. KARTON: Good morning.

MR. FRANCISSEN: Your Honor, I apologize. I haven't filed an appearance yet, but I will be. And my name is Vernon Francissen, V-e-r-n-o-n, last name F-r-a-n-c-i-s-s-e-n.

THE COURT: Okay. Good morning, gentlemen.

Well, I have a Lanham Act infringement case, an Illinois Uniform Deceptive Trade Practices case, and a preliminary injunction filed.

So let me ask plaintiffs, first, where we stand on everything that has come into my office.

MR. MANZO: Well, there are two motions pending this morning. One is permission to file an enlarged brief; the other is the preliminary injunction motion.

The complaint has been served. We have not yet received an answer. The initial status report, I believe, is scheduled for late March, but I think we might consider moving it up.

THE COURT: Right. That's a standard order that I send out on any newly filed case. But, of course, in a situation where someone's moving for preliminary injunction alleging actions that need to be -- allegedly need to be prevented immediately, that's -- a different schedule will be entered. So if you want to fill me in in more detail?

1 09: 39: 12 2 09: 39: 14 3 09: 39: 16 4 09: 39: 18 5 09: 39: 20 6 09: 39: 24 7 09: 39: 28 8 09: 39: 34 09: 39: 38 9 10 09: 39: 41 11 09: 39: 50 12 09: 39: 53 13 09: 39: 57 14 09: 40: 00 15 09: 40: 04 16 09: 40: 08 17 09: 40: 13 18 09: 40: 18 19 09: 40: 23 20 09: 40: 27 21 09: 40: 30 22 09: 40: 34 23 09: 40: 37 24 09: 40: 41 25 09: 40: 45

Of course, I've read your complaint. In a nutshell, though, I always like to hear from the plaintiff's attorneys regarding what they believe their case will show.

MR. MANZO: Certainly, your Honor.

This case goes back originally in Japan when a business was started under the name Miyano. It is a family surname. And eventually the founder died, and I believe the son or grandson -- I'm not sure which -- who is one of the defendants named Tom Miyano -- took over running the company in Japan, and in 1975 opened up the U.S. subsidiary here in a suburb of Chicago called Miyano Machinery USA.

He was the president and chairman of that company and held various titles, and he was also in control of the Japanese company.

At some point the company became overextended -- oh, during this time, he signed trademark applications for the registration of the trademark Miyano and various variations of that. For example, a stylized version of the name Miyano, and what we called winged M trademark, which is the M -- or the flying M with wings going off in opposite directions in a triangle.

Eventually, the company became overextended and applied for relief to a Japanese agency, which did grant relief. But as a condition of the relief it required Tom Miyano to depart from the company, to surrender his shares,

et cetera. He had to leave the Japanese company, and he had to leave the U.S. company as well.

Before he did that, he filed some trademark applications in his own name in Japan, and he told the U.S. subsidiary to start abandoning trademarks and not pay maintenance fees on patents, but we did not abandon those trademarks.

And before he actually left, I believe -- and I'm not sure of the exact date when he did this -- but his son named Steven Miyano, the other individual defendant, who probably was living at the same residence address in Barrington with the father, created or bought a company that was named Hitec Machinery.

Either before or just after Tom Miyano left the plaintiff, the name of the defendant corporation was changed from Hitec Machinery to MiyanoHitec Machinery.

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THE COURT: And when was that?

MR. MANZO: That was December 2005, as I recollect, your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. MANZO: Now, they have not yet produced a product, to the best of my knowledge. They are preparing products, I believe, in India. They have a website. My client is known as Miyano throughout the world. The company

name is Miyano Machinery.

The defendants decided they should use the name Miyano Machinery, but we'll put the name Hitecin between those two words. Then they adopted the winged M mark that's part of -- or a prominent part of our registered mark.

They have a website where they have the winged M, the flying M, all over their website. They are advertising. And now what we've learned is that they are going to the very important trade show that occurs every two years, the IMTS show that's coming up this September. My client goes to all the trade shows. We're there as Miyano.

He is going there as MiyanoHitec. He's producing the same goods, seeking the same customers, same channels of trade, the same building, the same floor, and the same name.

I don't know how much more of an ironclad case we could have.

THE COURT: Okay. Something tells me that you might have a defense? Unless you're going to say, We're going to have a settlement conference today.

MR. KARTON: We already had the settlement conference.

THE COURT: Oh, you already did. Good for you.

MR. KARTON: And we're still here.

THE COURT: Okay. Tell me, Mr. Karton, what is the defense?

MR. KARTON: Well, first of all, in order, cutting to

1 09: 42: 15 2 09: 42: 16 3 09: 42: 19 4 09: 42: 22 5 09: 42: 26 6 09: 42: 29 7 09: 42: 32 8 09: 42: 36 9 09: 42: 40 10 09: 42: 43 11 09: 42: 47 12 09: 42: 50 13 09: 42: 54 14 09: 42: 59 15 09: 43: 03 16 09: 43: 06 17 09: 43: 09 18 09: 43: 12 19 09: 43: 14 20 09: 43: 16 21 09: 43: 16 22 09: 43: 16 23 09: 43: 18

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09: 43: 31	1	the chase, as far as the ownership of the marks is concerned,
09: 43: 34	2	the flying M mark was owned by an individual in Japan not by
09: 43: 42	3	the corporation. And the individual the mark is now owned
09: 43: 48	4	by Tom Miyano individually in Japan. It was never owned by
09: 43: 54	5	the corporation. All of the expenses for the maintenance of
09: 44: 01	6	the mark were personally paid not corporately paid.
09: 44: 05	7	As far as the marks there were some other marks
09: 44: 11	8	that the corporation used in Japan. But in the '80s, the
09: 44: 17	9	directors of the corporation took action deliberately to cease
09: 44: 22	10	using some of the marks, and they were allowed to continue to
09: 44: 27	11	use the flying M mark, not as an ownership, but allowed it to
09: 44: 33	12	do because in the '80s the company was still owned by Miyano.
09: 44: 39	13	I don't want to confuse the surname Miyano with the
09: 44: 42	14	corporate name Miyano, so let's call the corporation MMU,
09: 44: 46	15	Mi yano Machi nery Japan.
09: 44: 47	16	THE COURT: Okay. So when you said that it was still
09: 44: 48	17	owned by, you meant the person.
09: 44: 50	18	MR. KARTON: That's correct; that's correct.
09: 44: 50	19	THE COURT: Understood. For some reason that's what
09: 44: 52	20	I thought.
09: 44: 55	21	MR. KARTON: The as far as the American company,
09: 44: 59	22	Miyano Machinery USA, let's call that MMU.
09: 45: 03	23	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 45: 04	24	MR. KARTON: As far as MMU is concerned, since MMU
09: 45: 06	25	was a wholly-owned subsidiary, MMJ gave directions to MMU to

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09: 46: 04	14
09: 46: 13	15
09: 46: 19	16
09: 46: 25	17
09: 46: 33	18
09: 46: 41	19
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develop a new mark, which they did. And they developed a stylized Miyano, the word Miyano, in script rather than block letters.

THE COURT: Is that the one that's on page 2 of your preliminary injunction motion? This one (indicating)?

MR. KARTON: Yes.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. KARTON: And Mi yano, both Mi yano Japan, MMJ, and MMU began to use that stylized name, the design. The triangle that you saw pictures of, the triangle with the winged M --

THE COURT: Page 3 of the preliminary injunction, this one?

MR. KARTON: Right.

They say it was adopted in '05 in the United States, that was after Tom Miyano left the company. It had been not used prior to that time. As I said, Tom Miyano owns that mark in Japan. It was never used commercially prior to that time.

We feel that Miyano, MMU, is attempting to usurp a mark that is owned personally by Tom Miyano, or, in the alternative, is attempting to establish a right to use a mark that it had years before abandoned.

There is the additional factor that, while MiyanoHitec Machinery is certainly a corporation, on the website now and in the advertising now, they are displaying the trade name Tom and Steven Miyano, not affiliated in any

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09: 47: 24	1	way with Miyano Machinery, Inc. in the United States or Miyano
09: 47: 29	2	Machinery in Japan. They are using their personal surname to
09: 47: 34	3	do busi ness.
09: 47: 35	4	THE COURT: But is it called MiyanoHitec Machinery?
09: 47: 38	5	MR. KARTON: The company is called MiyanoHitec
09: 47: 42	6	Machinery. But the advertising for it and the advertising at
09: 47: 46	7	the trade show on their booth will be Tom and Steven Miyano
09: 47: 51	8	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 47: 51	9	MR. KARTON: two different and there will be
09: 47: 53	10	the disclaimer to differentiate it from MMU. That's that's
09: 48: 03	11	basically the difference here.
09: 48: 05	12	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 48: 07	13	MR. KARTON: As far as the motions are concerned,
09: 48: 09	14	there are two, as Mr. Manzo mentioned, the one for leave to
09: 48: 15	15	amend. We, of course, have no objection to that. And had I
09: 48: 21	16	known beforehand, I would have told him that we have no
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the motions are concerned, ioned, the one for leave to objection to that. And had l old him that we have no objection to that.

> THE COURT: Okay.

MR. KARTON: We would, of course, like an opportunity to respond to the amended motion. The -- because there is information that is going to be coming from Japan, it's necessary from Japan, and because we don't control the corporation MMJ, and we somehow don't think that they are going to be as cooperative as they might be, given that they're the opponents in a lawsuit, and because of the

09: 49: 00	1	language differential, it may take us a little more time to
09: 49: 03	2	gather up the data we need to present to your Honor, even in
09: 49: 07	3	affidavit form, especially since you're going to need
09: 49: 11	4	certi fi ed transl ati ons. So
09: 49: 13	5	THE COURT: I don't speak Japanese.
09: 49: 15	6	MR. KARTON: I don't either. I have trouble with
09: 49: 18	7	Engl i sh.
09: 49: 20	8	In any case, normally I wouldn't ask for five weeks,
09: 49: 23	9	but I am this time
09: 49: 24	10	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 49: 26	11	MR. KARTON: to respond.
09: 49: 27	12	THE COURT: All right. A short reply?
09: 49: 30	13	MR. MANZO: Yes, your Honor. The winged M trademark
09: 49: 34	14	is registered it's a federally registered mark
09: 49: 36	15	THE COURT: The triangular one?
09: 49: 38	16	MR. MANZO: The triangle with the M in it is
09: 49: 41	17	actually registered to Miyano USA back in 1982.
09: 49: 45	18	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 49: 46	19	MR. MANZO: His marks were used continuously. There
09: 49: 49	20	was never an intent to abandon them.
09: 49: 51	21	The use of a trade name and a disclaimer is just not
09: 49: 56	22	going to do the trick, your Honor. The disclaimer honestly is
09: 49: 58	23	in microprint. And when people search for Miyano, they're
09: 50: 01	24	going to find their company, and we're the ones who
09: 50: 03	25	established the reputation.

09: 50: 05	1	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 50: 05	2	MR. MANZO: There was a disclaimer case and that was
09: 50: 07	3	involving the Berghoff restaurant down there.
09: 50: 10	4	THE COURT: Right.
09: 50: 11	5	MR. MANZO: But that involved a family member who
09: 50: 14	6	went out 40 miles west to open up a French bistro.
09: 50: 19	7	THE COURT: I remember reading about it in the paper,
09: 50: 21	8	but I don't recall reading the case, so I don't know the law
09: 50: 24	9	that came out of it.
09: 50: 25	10	MR. MANZO: In that case they allowed a disclaimer to
09: 50: 29	11	be in equal size. But, again, that was not geographically the
09: 50: 33	12	same area and not seeking the same customers. The present
09: 50: 38	13	case is same goods, same customers, same channels of trade,
09: 50: 42	14	same name, dead ringer.
09: 50: 44	15	THE COURT: Okay. You sought to file an excess paged
09: 50: 47	16	brief as well. How many pages, sir, did you want?
09: 50: 50	17	MR. MANZO: It was attached. I believe it's
09: 50: 52	18	approximately 30.
09: 50: 53	19	THE COURT: Okay. All right. Here's what I'll do.
09: 50: 56	20	I'll grant the motion to amend. I'll grant the motion to file
09: 50: 58	21	the excess brief.
09: 50: 59	22	You, sir, also can file up to the same number of
09: 51: 02	23	pages in response as he has filed, and I will give you five
09: 51: 05	24	weeks to respond to the preliminary injunction. Fortunately
09: 51: 08	25	you brought the case with enough time that we can get to the

09: 51: 12	1	issues, so that we can hopefully resolve this long before your
09: 51: 15	2	trade show, which is usually the problem is that we're right
09: 51: 19	3	on the verge and then we need to move faster.
09: 51: 22	4	My question is whether or not we need to have some
09: 51: 25	5	expedited discovery on the issues. Are we satisfied that we
09: 51: 29	6	can get what we need in order to resolve the case?
09: 51: 33	7	MR. KARTON: Given the conversations that we've had
09: 51: 36	8	up to now, I anticipate that at least counsel will cooperate
09: 51: 42	9	with one another
09: 51: 43	10	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 51: 43	11	MR. KARTON: towards di scovery.
09: 51: 45	12	MR. MANZO: We're still
09: 51: 46	13	MR. KARTON: Whether we can get the clients to do it
09: 51: 49	14	or not
09: 51: 49	15	THE COURT: Right.
09: 51: 50	16	MR. KARTON: is something else, but at least
09: 51: 51	17	counsel will be able to talk to each other.
09: 51: 53	18	MR. MANZO: Mr. Karton and I have a good working
09: 51: 55	19	relationship, your Honor. It would be helpful if we could set
09: 51: 57	20	a date certain for answering the complaint.
09: 51: 59	21	THE COURT: We will do so.
09: 52: 00	22	But let me get back to the schedule on the
09: 52: 02	23	preliminary injunction. So you're going to have five weeks to
09: 52: 04	24	respond.
09: 52: 06	25	MR. KARTON: Yes.

09: 52: 06	1	THE COURT: You will have two weeks to reply, and
09: 52: 09	2	that'll give us the fully briefed preliminary injunction
09: 52: 12	3	moti on.
09: 52: 12	4	You need to respond to the amended complaint
09: 52: 18	5	within 21 days of today, which I think should give you enough
09: 52: 22	6	time what's the problem?
09: 52: 23	7	MR. MANZO: There is no motion to amend, your Honor.
09: 52: 26	8	I'm sorry.
09: 52: 26	9	THE COURT: Oh, was it an amended preliminary
09: 52: 28	10	injunction motion.
09: 52: 28	11	MR. MANZO: No, there's no amendment.
09: 52: 30	12	MR. KARTON: It's just the notice.
09: 52: 31	13	MR. MANZO: There was an amended notice of motion
09: 52: 33	14	because it was set for yesterday and it moved to today.
09: 52: 36	15	THE COURT: Oh, I misunderstood what you were saying
09: 52: 39	16	with the nonobjection.
09: 52: 40	17	MR. KARTON: I apologize. I was not clear. I'm not
09: 52: 41	18	objecting to our being here today rather than yesterday.
09: 52: 44	19	THE COURT: Okay. 21
09: 52: 45	20	MR. KARTON: I apologize for the confusion.
09: 52: 47	21	THE COURT: 21 days to answer the complaint, and five
09: 52: 52	22	weeks to answer the preliminary injunction.
09: 52: 55	23	Then what does that bring me to, Mr. Wood?
09: 52: 58	24	THE CLERK: Response to preliminary injunction
09: 52: 59	25	motions due March 12, reply thereto is due March 27.

09: 53: 04	1	THE COURT: March 22nd?
09: 53: 06	2	THE CLERK: 27th.
09: 53: 07	3	THE COURT: 27. Okay.
09: 53: 08	4	MR. KARTON: The answer is due March 22nd?
09: 53: 10	5	THE CLERK: Answer to the complaint is due
09: 53: 12	6	February 28th, in 21 days.
09: 53: 16	7	MR. KARTON: And I'm sorry. What did you set
09: 53: 19	8	for
09: 53: 19	9	THE CLERK: 21 days from now, which is February 28.
09: 53: 22	10	MR. KARTON: And then what's on March 22nd?
09: 53: 24	11	THE CLERK: The reply to the responsive to the
09: 53: 28	12	response to the motion for preliminary injunction.
09: 53: 30	13	MR. KARTON: Okay. One question that I do have, your
09: 53: 34	14	Honor, and that is and I didn't ask counsel this before
09: 53: 40	15	the plaintiff in this case is MMU. But it's we know that
09: 53: 45	16	it's a wholly-owned subsidiary of MMJ, the Japanese company.
09: 53: 51	17	And we would like to know whether or not counsel will produce
09: 53: 57	18	documents that we request of MMJ rather than our having to try
09: 54: 02	19	to serve MMJ in Japan and so forth.
09: 54: 06	20	THE COURT: Okay. Are you going to have that
09: 54: 08	21	ability?
09: 54: 09	22	MR. MANZO: I have to speak with the client, and they
09: 54: 12	23	will have to ask their Japanese parent about that
09: 54: 15	24	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 54: 15	25	MR. MANZO: because they are honestly outside the

09: 54: 17	1	jurisdiction of the Court
09: 54: 18	2	THE COURT: Right.
09: 54: 19	3	MR. MANZO: and they're not a party.
09: 54: 20	4	MR. KARTON: Well
09: 54: 21	5	THE COURT: So what I think you need to do is talk
09: 54: 23	6	with each other and make a determination. If there's going to
09: 54: 26	7	be an issue regarding those discovery requests, you'll need to
09: 54: 28	8	come back to me and I will address it, but
09: 54: 31	9	MR. KARTON: Especially since ownership of some of
09: 54: 33	10	these things in Japan is an issue. I mean, it's been raised
09: 54: 39	11	in the complaint. And so if we're talking about ownership of
09: 54: 43	12	these things by the Japanese parent of the American company,
09: 54: 47	13	but yet we can't get documents from the Japanese parent
09: 54: 51	14	THE COURT: Right.
09: 54: 53	15	MR. KARTON: we're stymied or at least
09: 54: 56	16	THE COURT: Well, there's the Hague Convention that
09: 54: 58	17	will enable you to get it
09: 54: 59	18	MR. KARTON: Right.
09: 54: 59	19	THE COURT: but let's first make the discussions
09: 55: 03	20	between lawyers to make a determination as to what your
09: 55: 07	21	company's position is.
09: 55: 08	22	MR. KARTON: I'm sure we'll talk later today.
09: 55: 10	23	MR. MANZO: We certainly will agree, your Honor. And
09: 55: 13	24	we're not going to do anything to stifle this case, because we
09: 55: 16	25	need relief quickly.

09: 55: 17	1	Our position would be, though, the U.S. company, MMU,
09: 55: 19	2	is the registered owner.
09: 55: 20	3	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 55: 21	4	MR. MANZO: And who owns the mark in Japan is
09: 55: 23	5	interesting history, but we own the rights in the United
09: 55: 27	6	States.
09: 55: 27	7	Mr. Miyano, the individual defendant, is no longer
09: 55: 31	8	part of our company, and he shouldn't be permitted to compete
09: 55: 34	9	with us under
09: 55: 35	10	THE COURT: Okay. It's not before me today, and
09: 55: 36	11	people are still waiting in the wings for this 9:00 o'clock
09: 55: 40	12	call
09: 55: 40	13	MR. KARTON: Okay.
09: 55: 40	14	THE COURT: so if you do have an issue regarding
09: 55: 42	15	it, then you can come back to me with
09: 55: 44	16	MR. KARTON: I would also point out there are
09: 55: 48	17	objections and cancellation proceedings in the Patent and
09: 55: 50	18	Trademark Office for these purported ownerships.
09: 55: 53	19	THE COURT: Okay.
09: 55: 53	20	MR. KARTON: Thank you very much, your Honor.
09: 55: 55	21	THE COURT: One more. I will give you a preliminary
09: 56: 00	22	injunction date that we will work towards, and that will be on
09: 56: 03	23	May 9th at 10:00 a.m. in the morning.
09: 56: 06	24	MR. MANZO: Thank you, your Honor.
09: 56: 07	25	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

09: 56: 08	1	MR. MANZO: Would your Honor want to advance the date		
09: 56: 11	2	for the initial status report?		
09: 56: 13	3	THE COURT: Oh, since you're all started here with		
09: 56: 15	4	the I think I can just strike the initial status for all of		
09: 56: 21	5	you, since this sufficed to serve me for that purpose.		
09: 56: 25	6	I would like to get the five-page report for purposes		
09: 56: 28	7	of my files, which includes settlement discussions, what the		
09: 56: 33	8	key issues are. And you don't need to appear again on it, but		
09: 56: 37	9	you do need to file it. And if you can file that within seven		
09: 56: 40	10	days of today, I'd appreciate it.		
09: 56: 43	11	MR. MANZO: So your Honor is striking the actual		
09: 56: 44	12	THE COURT: Striking the actual status, but I'm		
09: 56: 46	13	requiring you to file the report		
09: 56: 48	14	MR. MANZO: Very good.		
09: 56: 48	15	THE COURT: so you need to sit down and just		
09: 56: 50	16	answer those questions that I require of all cases. Okay?		
09: 56: 53	17	Thank you very much.		
09: 56: 54	18	MR. KARTON: And report in five days. Thank you for		
09: 56: 56	19	your time, your Honor.		
09: 56: 57	20	THE COURT: Thank you.		
	21	(Concl uded at 9:56 a.m.)		
	22			
	23			
	24			
	25			

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		19			
1					
2					
3	CERTIFICATE				
4					
5	I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from				
6	the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.				
7					
8					
9	April M. Metzler, RPR, CRR Date				
10					
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